

REMARKS

Claims 15-17 define an assembly in which the cover provides both the compressive force and a resilience that seals the wells in the microplate by means of an elastic compression force in the form of a steel spring external to the gasket pad. The invention can thus accommodate a substantial variation in microplate thickness. These claims are thus allowable for the same reasons as claims 13 and 14.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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